Number of Postman in Jaipur

6379. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the area covered by the Jaipur Postal Delivery Department;

(b) whether the number of Postman employed for postal delivery in Jaipur is sufficient;

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the names of the places where the land is at the disposal of the department for setting up of Post Offices in Jaipur Circle; and

(e) the amount allocated so far by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Jaipur Postal Delivery Department covers an area of 218.26 sq. kms.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Within the constraints of economy instructions of the Government, optimum deployment of existing staff is being assured so that delivery of dak is not adversely affected.

(d) In Jaipur, land is available at the following 7 places for construction of Post Office buildings:-

1. Jhalana Doongri
2. Mansaroovar Sector No. 2
3. Manasaroovar Sector No. 6
4. Manasaroovar Sector No. 12
5. Muralipura
6. Vaishali Nagar
7. Vidhyadhar Nagar.

(e) The funds allotted for construction of departmental buildings for post offices during last five years for Rajasthan Postal Circle is as stated below:-

Year	Fund allotted in Rupees
1992-93	75,00,000
1993-94	1,87,00,000
1994-95	2,87,00,000
1995-96	58,54,000
1996-97	29,55,000

Charge For Cellular Phone

6380. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI:

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent order of the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) to increase the charges of call made from fixed phones to cellular mobile phone subscribers in Circles other than the four metros with effect from 15.2.1997 will made the tarrif for local calls costlier by the least 24 times;

(b) if so, whether any protest has been lodged to Government in this regard by the Cellular Operators Association to the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have fixed any ceiling in this regard at the time of issue of licence; and

(e) whether these charges are of International level?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issuance of Free Travel Passes

6381. SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA:

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 5500 passes for free travel has been issued by the Railways;

(b) if so, whether this has turned out to be a major problem for railway officials;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that these passes are issued in the name of single person, who are allowed an additional three or four persons to travel free alongwith the main holder and most of these passengers travel by AC Class-II;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to discontinue the issuance of such passes; and

(g) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Free passes are issued to Railways employees as per their entitlements under the Rules on various accounts like duty, transfer,